Lowering the Eligibility Criteria for Civil Services

†395. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to lower the eligibility criteria for civil services from graduation to 10+2;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether with the amendment in eligibility criteria, the maximum age limit would also be reduced; and

(d) if so, what would be the age limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) No decision has been taken by Government in this regard.

Annual Plans for the States

396. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual plans, as approved by Planning Commission for States and Union Territories for the year 2005-06;

(b) in what way the finances for the above annual plan are to be generated by States and what would be the Government's share, State-wise; and

(c) the targets of rate of growth given to States for 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) A Statement, showing the size of the Annual Plan 2005-06 of States agreed upon so far in the meetings between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Chief Minister of the State and Union Territory concerned is given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below). Out of these, details of State's Own Resources and Central Assistance indicating the way in which the Plan is financed have been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.